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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Michael W. Stephens

Application No.: 10/766,219

Filed: January 28, 2004

Title: COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCT AND

PACKAGE

Attorney Docket No.: STEPHENS I

Group Art Unit: 1714

Examiner: Cephia D. Toomer

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Madam:

Applicant submits this Response to the Office Action mailed August 28, 2006.

The Examiner has indicated that Applicant has not identified where some of the added claim language, specifically "surface parallel with said exterior surface", is found in the specification. In response to this inquiry, Applicant provides the following information.

As the Examiner is aware, the claims are directed to an embodiment of the present invention as shown in Figures 7 and 8 of the present application. This embodiment is further discussed in detail on pages 10 and 11 of the detailed description of the present application. Applicant notes that the specific words "surface parallel with said exterior surface" are nowhere set forth

as such in the detailed description. Instead, that language is simply a verbal picture of the combustible product shown in Figure 8 of the drawings. Specifically, the "substantially conc-shaped interior surface parallel with said exterior surface" is an alternative articulation of the inside wall 130 of the combustible cone 100. Applicant submits that the language in the amendment is plainly evident in the detailed description and drawings of the specification of the present application.

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As indicated earlier, Applicant now submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested hereon.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2127.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 21, 2006

John H. Thòmas Reg No. 33,460

536 Granite Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23226 Phone: (804) 344-8130 Fax: (804) 644-3643

E-Mail: info@ip-counsel.net



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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner Cephia D. Toomer at the Patent and Trademark Office at facsimile number (571) 273-8300, on the date shown below.

John H. Thomas

Date: September 21, 2006